

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGUI 00701 201522Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6954

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 0701

EXDIS

E.9. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CT, US

SUBJECT: SUGGESTED PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REF: BANGUI 0700

FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM
PRESIDENT FORD TO PRESIDENT BOKASSA FOR POSSIBLE
PRESENTATION DURING BUCHANAN VISIT TO BANGUI.

QTE MR. PRESIDENT:

ON THE OCCASION OF HIS VISIT TO YOUR COUNTRY, I HAVE ASKED THE
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL AFRICAN AFFAIRS, MR. THOMPSON BUCHANAN,
TO ACT AS MY SPECIAL EMISSARY AND TO BRING TO YOU MY PERSONAL
GOOD WISHES AND THE HOPE OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE
THAT THE CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES WILL CONINUE
TO PROSPER.

AS YOU KNOW, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER HAS RECENTLY VISITED AFRICA.
BECAUSE OF THE MANY DEMANDS ON HIS SCHEDULE HE WAS NOT ABLE TO VISIT
MANY OF OUR GOOD FRIENDS IN AFRICA, INCLUDING THE CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC. THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT WAS TO ARTICULATE
UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARDS AFRICA FOR THE MONTHS AND YEARS AHEAD.
OUR INITIATIVES ARE DESIGNED TO PROMOTE AN EARLY AND PEACEFUL RESOLU-
TION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS ON THE BASIS OF MAJORITY RULE, TO
LIMIT ALL EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF AFRICAN
COUNTRIES AND TO PROMOTE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY
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OF ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING

TOGETHER WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT TOWARDS THESE COMMON GOALS.
I AM FULLY AWARE OF THE CLOSE COOPERATION AND CONSISTENT FRIENDSHIP
WHICH YOU HAVE SHOWN TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES. I WANT YOU TO KNOW
OF MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRONG
AND FRIENDLY TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. I WISH ALSO TO ASSURE
YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES VALUES THE FRIENDSHIP WHICH IT ENJOYS
WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC.
I REGRET THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR YOU TO POSTPONE YOUR PLANS TO
COME TO THE UNITED STATES THIS SPRING, WHEN YOU ARE ABLE TO RESCHEDULE
YOUR VISIT, I LOOK FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY WHICH IT WILL PROVIDE
OF MEETING WITH YOU. PLEASE ACCEPT MR. PRESIDENT THE ASSURANCES
OF MY HIGHEST REGARDS. UNQTE
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